

The Shaw SPIRIT

Weekend Weather



Saturday

Partly cloudy
High 91, Low 71



Sunday

Partly cloudy
High 88, Low 66

Courtesy of the 20th Operations
Support Squadron Weather flight

Sept. 16, 2005

Serving Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., home of the F-16CJ+

Vol. 11, No. 37

Newsline

Closure

The 20th Medical Group will close at 2 p.m. today for mandatory training. For medical emergencies, call **911** or seek care at the nearest emergency room. For non-emergencies, call **895-CARE**.

Closure

The commissary will be closed Tuesday for a storewide reset. It will open again on Wednesday.

Closure

The Legal Office will be closed Sept. 27 and 29 for an official base function. Contact the command post at **895-5850** if there is a legal emergency.

Air Force birthday

The Air Force birthday will be celebrated today at 12:30 p.m. with a cake cutting by the wing commander at the dining facility. All Shaw members are invited.

Displaced by hurricane

Displaced Defense Commissary employees are asked to call **1-877-925-6655**. Displaced Veterans Affairs employees are asked to call **1-888-766-2474**.

Down on DUIs

We all play a part in preventing DUIs. Don't let the team down. The wing has **28** DUI-free days to go until a down day.

Last DUI: 20th CES
2005 total: 12
This time last year: 31

Current as of Thursday

Airmen Against Drunk Driving offers free, confidential rides for intoxicated base members. For a ride, call **983-9722**. AADD saves last week: **5**

Welcome Home
Block Party!
Free food, drinks and
entertainment from
noon to 7 p.m. Sept 27
at the Carolina Skies
club parking lot

Chief Popp visits Shaw

ACC command chief speaks on AF issues

By Airman 1st Class Joel Mease
Staff writer

During a three-day visit to Shaw, Chief Master Sgt. David Popp, the command chief master sergeant for Air Combat Command, talked about various Air Force issues Thursday that affect Airmen across Air Combat Command.

Q: Many ACC Airmen are participating in the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. What are your thoughts on how our Airmen have responded to this natural disaster?

A: This proves we really have flexibility in our Air Force. Our relief efforts show our Airmen can handle multiple missions here and abroad. It also shows to our taxpayers just how valuable the Air Force is to our country.

What really impressed me was the Airmen who responded with enthusiasm to volunteer to help in the relief efforts.

They are saying to me, "It's not about me; it's about we." I don't think I've ever seen that kind of response during my time in the Air Force.

Q: The hurricane disrupted technical school graduations at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. How will this affect ACC's mission?

A: Our challenge now is to have our NCOs show these Airmen what the expectations are and how to succeed in our Air Force. NCOs have always had this responsibility, but now more than ever we need our NCOs to help our Airmen complete their training and to be good role models for them.

Q: What direction do you see ACC going into the next decade for the recapitalization of our aircraft?

A: The Air Force is working to update our fleet with the F/A-22. This fighter is the future of our Air Force. Our older systems are also seeing upgrades including the A-10s, F-15s and F-16s here.

With all these changes, we need our NCOs to help set priorities when it comes to other projects in the Air Force. We have very limited funds, and we will not be able to fund every project we would like done.

Q: Airmen Against Drunk Driving has been a successful operation to save lives and careers. Have you seen a specific safety program at a base that has caught your eye?

A: I'm impressed with all our ACC bases for what they're doing to promote safety. Each base has a different circumstance, and each one has a program that meets its needs.

What I'm especially impressed with is each Airman that volunteers his or her time to be a wingman.

Q: Now that more Airmen are getting Fit to Fight, have you noticed a change in the attitude towards fitness in the Air Force?

A: I sure have!

The change in attitude has been a very good change. I'm hearing from Airmen they are glad the Air Force is enforcing this new change.

Deployed Airmen are saying to me they were glad to be



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bevier

Chief Master Sgt. David Popp (left), command chief master sergeant for Air Combat Command, and Col. Marty Edmonds, 609th Air Communications Squadron commander, tacks senior Airman stripes Sept. 7 on Airman 1st Class Eric White, 609th ACOMS, for promotion through the Below The Zone Program.

in shape to handle the elements and duties that are required of them.

The only complaint I'm receiving is they wish they could have even more time to work out.

Q: Do you have any advice to help Airmen guide their career in the military?

A: The No. 1 thing I tell Airmen is to look back on why they joined the Air Force. Some join to set a goal in self improvement, some to save money, some to get an education and some to see the world.

What ever your goal was when you joined the Air Force, go out there and do it.

Q: Looking back on your career, do you have any thoughts to pass on to the Airmen of Shaw?

A: Stay focused. There are going to be good times, challenging times and rough times. It's just going to be a roller coaster ride.

In the end, it's going to end up good for you if you stay focused. Remember, to climb to the top you have to start out at the bottom.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to say to the Airmen at Shaw?

A: I have been very impressed with my visit. The sense of mission and teamwork Shaw displays is very positive. I really do have the best job in the Air Force when I get to see America's best.

Camping with the Army in the “Crescent City”

By Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard
4th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

LOUIS ARMSTRONG NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, La. – After a week of sleeping on ponchos inside hangars, nearly 900 soldiers of the Army’s 82d Airborne Division can now rest easy in an Air Force Harvest Eagle tent package thanks to the efforts of the Airmen deployed to the 4th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.

According to 4th ECES Commander Lt. Col. D.J. Junio, deployed from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., the engineering unit worked hard to establish a bare base for Airmen providing relief to Hurricane Katrina survivors and then quickly turned their attention to erecting a tent city for the Army as well.

“We had our plan in place within a day,” said Maj. James King of the 4th ECES, deployed from Shaw. “It took about one more day to draw up a site plan, have our ‘dirt boys’ level the ground, and have our engineering assistants mark off the areas for the tents.”

While the Army typically has its own tents, the Air Force tents may have an amenity some soldiers aren’t used to having.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Krueger, a paralegal for the 82d Airborne, said this is the first time in his 22 years in the Army he’ll sleep in a tent with air conditioning. He and dozens of other soldiers assisted the 4th ECES Airmen in the tent city’s construction.

“It’s nice,” he said of his time working side-by-side with the Airmen of the 4th ECES. “I’ve never really hung out with Air Force people before. Working together with this great bunch of people will help us get this work done quickly.”

Working with Sgt. Krueger was Staff Sgt. Damon Weigl, deployed from Shaw. He said he set up a bare base for Marines in the past and added that this project was a great opportunity to show that “we in the Air Force don’t just keep to ourselves.”

“We can show that the Army and the Air Force can work together,” he said. “And we’ll work till the work is done.”

Echoing Sgt. Weigl’s statement was Army Maj. Kevin Brown, the assistant division engineer for the 82nd Airborne Division deployed from Fort Bragg, N.C.

“The Air Force is helping us improve the quality of life of the task force working in support of the displaced Americans in New Orleans,” Maj. Brown said.

For many soldiers within the 82d Airborne, whose parent organization is the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, the tent city is another in a long line of examples of joint operations success.

“The XVIII Airborne Corps expects to work in a joint environment when we deploy,” the major explained.

“The Army also conducts joint operations every day back at Fort Bragg. So of course, with open arms, we accept the assistance of the 4th ECES. We see no problems with being able to work with the Air Force here and we’re excited to do so,” said the major.

Col. Junio said the people building the new tent city may be Army and Air Force, and his own Airmen may come from 10 separate bases, but they are all a part of one team now.

“It’s great to see how people have merged here from all over the country to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the hurricane relief effort,” he said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

Senior Airmen Brandon Mathis (right) and Taurus Stephens, both deployed from Shaw’s 20th Civil Engineer Squadron, set up the tent frame Sept. 8.



The national Prisoner of War/Missing in Action recognition day memorial is today at 10:30 a.m. at the flag pole in front of the 9th Air Force headquarters building.

There will be a wreath laying in honor of all POW/MIAs and a missing-man formation flyover.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Bryan Cox at 895-2026.

CFC kicks-off

By Kimberly Champagne
Internal Information chief

Combined Federal Campaign is scheduled to kick-off Sept. 26 and last until Nov. 11.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

“This campaign gives members a chance to support various organizations that make a difference in our lives,” said Maj Robert Burgess, 20th Medical Services Flight chief and this years’ campaign coordinator.

Military and Federal Employees can contribute from pay allotments and all others can participate by supporting fundraisers or giving a one-time donation.

“One of the fundraiser will be the F-16 pull,” said Maj Burgess.

Campaign booklets will be given out by squadron representatives and they will list organizations that can be supported.

“Many of the national organizations currently involved in the relief efforts are also CFC charities. The CFC is a great way to help immediately with Hurricane Katrina disaster relief efforts,” Col. Bill Hyatt, 20th Fighter Wing commander.

For more information please contact your squadron representative or logon to cfc@opm.gov.

Briefly ...

New cell phones

Beginning Monday anyone carrying a government issued cellular phone will be given a new cellular phone. Cellular phone representatives will be available to transfer existing phone books and provide operational training on how to use the new phones. Those individuals currently using BlackBerries will not be affected by this initiative.

The schedule for the exchange can be found on the Shaw Intranet and at <https://info>.

For more information, contact 1st Lt. Donald Huffman at **895-3385**.

Safe-haven status

Officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here are urging Air Force family members in safe-haven status to call AFPC at **(866) 299-0596** to report their safe-haven location and other contact information.

Personnel officials are available 24 hours a day to take calls from family members and ensure they are fine and aware of their entitlements.

Instructors wanted

Air Force Junior ROTC has more than 60 instructor positions open in high schools around the country.

All applicants must be retired from active duty less than five years from the effective date of employment. This may be waived in exceptional cases. If still on active duty, applicants must have applied for retirement to be effective within six months.

Instructors must meet Air Force weight/body fat standards and have high standards of military bearing, appearance and moral character. Officers must have a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution. NCOs must have a high school diploma or equivalent, but a minimum of an associate's degree will be required in the near future.

For more information, call **(866) 235-7682** ext. **35275** or **35300**. The DSN number is **493-5275/5300**. For a list of schools and locations, visit <http://www.afots.af.mil/AFJROTC/instructors.asp>.

Sexual assault prevention

To protect yourself from acquaintance sexual assault, know your sexual intentions and limits and communicate them clearly. You have the right to say no to any unwanted sexual contact. If you say no, say it like you mean it. Back up your words with your body language. If you are uncertain about what you want, ask your partner to respect your feelings. Don't give mixed messages. For more information or to report a sexual assault please call SARC helpline **895-7272**. (*Information from Shaw's sexual assault response coordinator*)

From **Katrina**, Page 2

we'd heard about, and oh yes, we'd eat beignets at Café DuMonde.

Shortly after arriving, we checked the weather and noted the hurricane was moving. We checked with the hotel but there were no warnings at that time. The next morning, however, was a different story.

As we entered the lobby, people were frantically rushing to change airline reservations, get rental cars or shuttles to the airport and even begging rides with strangers.

We scheduled a flight out Sunday morning and were satisfied we would have plenty of time to do a little sightseeing in the one day we had. Then flights were cancelled and the airport closed. There also were no rental cars and no busses. Even our efforts to buy a vehicle were fruitless as dealerships were closed in preparation for the storm.

The authorities were on television demanding people leave the city and we wanted to leave, but there was no way out.

As Hurricane Katrina neared, we went to the hotel gift shop to purchase any food items they might have available. Our selection was limited to a bag of candy, peanut butter crackers and a chocolate bar. We bought a small candle and a small throw away lighter to light the candle if power was lost. The hotel issued each room a small flashlight. We bought bottled water and ran the bath tub full of water.

We then planned our escape route in case the elevators stopped working. From our 8th floor room, we walked down the nearest stairwell and found it ended in a business office which would most likely be locked. Back up the stairs we went to locate an alternate route.

We found two stairwells which would take us to the lobby and then we practiced finding those stairs in the dark by feeling our way along the walls and counting the openings until we reached the stairs.

When the storm hit Monday Aug. 29, we could see the Mississippi River from our window when we dared to look out. At other times, the rain blew so hard the river, which was just across the street, was not visible. Yet, we were still not prepared for the devastation we later saw.

We were fortunate that the hotel provided food although it was limited. They ran out of food each time and we missed four meals before we were able to get a hot meal but we did have our purchases from the gift shop. We spaced out those paltry food items and limited the amount we ate because we didn't know how long we'd have to make them last.

We were confident that help would arrive shortly and we'd escape the growing disaster. We began to hear stories of the levee breaking and water covering the city, of looting and possible shootings.

We heard what sounded like gun fire and were told to

remain inside. The hotel was hot and humid but safer than being outside and although the flooring was wet inside, we were not in a flooded area.

In the wake of the hurricane, we saw some of the best of mankind as able bodied people helped the elderly and the physically challenged. While the elevators were out, volunteers carried those in wheelchairs down the stairs and non-working escalators. A small boy took his place at the top of the escalators one evening and sat with his little flashlight to light the way on the escalators so people could walk safely.

We also saw some of the worst in mankind as what appeared to be looters proudly walked around wearing clothing with price tags still hanging from them and people taking more food than they could possible eat and then throwing it away while others went without.

Four days later, in the early morning hours of Sept. 1, we and our 900 or so fellow guests were cautiously herded on busses and very quietly driven out of town escorted by police and national guardsmen.

As we entered I-10 and the bridge over the Mississippi River, a very strong sigh of relief could be heard throughout the bus which had been completely silent as we watched and prayed that we'd make it out.

We caravanned to Baton Rouge, La., where we left the others and caught a flight home. We were dirty and smelly and received strange looks in the airport but undoubtedly we were the happiest folks flying that day.

The experience is one I will never forget. I will be fortunate if I am able to just forget the stench which was growing stronger by the hour and I feel for those who are still in the city looking for survivors.

I will forever recall the heroes who were still working at the hotel caring for its guests while not knowing if family members survived. Nor will I forget those we met who had nothing left except the few items they carried but still were positive as they tried to decide how and where their new life would begin.

I am always proud to be a civilian Air Force team member and undoubtedly Air Force training played a strong role in our survival of the disaster. My confidence that we would be rescued was strong and the ability to ration our food stores and monitor our water intake were based on Air Force training. I am grateful from my Air Force family and the super support we received.

I missed the great restaurants but I got to share a bag of candy with my sister as we counted out how many pieces we could allow ourselves; I missed the great jazz clubs but I heard the most beautiful sound on earth when we landed and I heard my family screaming out my name.

As for the beignets, well, there is always another time. I still have a list.

Shaw Blotter

(Editor's note: The blotter includes incidents from 20th Security Forces Squadron reports. The following information is intended to increase awareness of resource protection and safety concerns.)

■ An individual had their government property stolen from the work place.

■ There was a domestic dispute between an Airman and the Airmen's spouse.

■ An individual was charged with failure to control pet due to the canine frequently getting out.

■ Damage to personal property. An individual had the window of their vehicle busted out by the base grounds crew.

■ There were 15 traffic tickets issued during the week.



In case of emergency, call **911**.

Direct routine questions and non-emergency concerns to 20th SFS personnel at the 24-hour desk by calling **895-3670**. If you have information about any crime, listed here or otherwise, call the 20th SFS investigations section at **895-3600**.

SPiRiT? TRIVIA

Question: What day is the welcome home block party scheduled for?

Answer to last week's question: The 20th Civil Engineer Squadron has already deployed to support hurricane relief efforts.

Last week's winner: Jeff Beyer, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron

The first person to e-mail the correct answer to *The Shaw Spirit* at spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil will get a free t-shirt.

Wollmann retirement

Master Sgt. Thomas Wollmann, 20th Maintenance Operations Squadron, is retiring after 26 years of service. He has been at Shaw 10 years.

The Louisville, Ky., native and his wife, Susan, have three sons, David, Joshua and Douglas. After retirement, Sgt. Wollmann plans to continue his education in the local area.

“Sgt. Wollmann has been a valuable asset to the 20th MOS and Team Shaw. His skills and knowledge will be missed,” said Col. Bill Hyatt, 20th Fighter Wing commander.

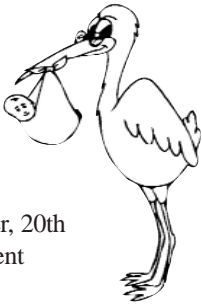
The retirement ceremony is Sept. 23 at 2 p.m. at the Carolina Skies club.

Shaw Stork Sorties

Aug. 23 -- Mackenzie Leigh to Megan and Airman 1st Class Kevin Kirk, 28th Operational Weather Squadron

Sept. 9 -- Dylan Wayne to Amanda and Staff Sgt. Jonathan Smith, 20th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Sept. 12 -- Dacey Alison to Staff Sgts. Jennifer, 20th Fighter Wing, and Joshua Young, 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron



Courtesy photo

Visiting Vermont

Vermont Senators Patrick Leahy (from left) and Jim Jeffords talk with Brig. Gen. Michael Dubie, assistant adjutant general for joint forces vermont national guard, and Col. Michael Vidal, 20th Maintenance Group commander, during a 20th Fighter Wing command visit to members of the 20th FW stationed in Vermont.

Shaw cares

Team Shaw members who would like to donate items to the military families displaced by Hurricane Katrina can call the family support center for the list.

Donation boxes are located in the 20th Support Group

lobby, clinic, chapel, BX, commissary and the family support center.

To donate furnature, call the chapel at **895-1106**.

For more information, call the FSC at **895-1252**.

Living Legends program celebrates Air Force heritage

By Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

Wearing an Air Force uniform from the 1960s is a completely different experience from seeing a black and white picture of one in a textbook.

Living Legends will soon offer Airmen here the opportunity to experience what it was like to wear heavy cotton khaki uniforms instead of a camouflage battle dress uniform or a service cap instead of a flight cap with their blues. The organization, started at Dover Air Force Base, Del., in 2000, is a group of active-duty Airmen who wear vintage Air Force uniforms to honor those who have served in the past and tie the Air Force's past to its future.

“We built on the program until it had at least 12 to 20 members dressed up in vintage Air Force uniforms,” said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Brejcha, 90th Mission Support Group superintendent.

Living Legends don vintage Air Force uniforms during events such as Air Force milestones, Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Observance Day, and senior NCO

induction ceremonies. Airmen perform everyday duties in the throw-back attire, like checking identification at the front gate in honor of the Air Force birthday.

“It’s amazing watching a civilian pull up (who has) worn that uniform from the Korean or Vietnam War,” the chief said. “They are just flabbergasted; they are in awe of what we’re doing.”

Locating uniforms is the key to putting the program together here.

“We’re looking for uniforms from World War II to Operation Desert Storm -- but especially rare are female uniforms, missileer uniforms, 1950s Ike jackets and khakis,” the chief said.

However, the program is not all about the uniform; it is about the person and the history behind it.

Chief Brejcha challenges each Airman wearing a vintage uniform to learn about the person who wore it and the uniform itself. People who donate uniforms are honored during Living Legend events, especially if they are in the local area.

“Living Legends is important because it recognizes the contributions of those who have served in the past and are still



Photo by Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon

Left, Tech. Sgt. Shawn Davis puts the finishing touches on the vintage uniform of Chief Master Sgt. Mark Brejcha.

living in the local area,” said Tech Sgt. Shawn Davis, 90th Mission Support Squadron NCO in charge of personnel relocation and member of the Living Legends program.

“You have a sense of pride that you’re honoring (our veteran’s) efforts with the

Air Force that have led us to what we have now -- the greatest Air Force in the world,” Chief Brejcha said. “They had a part to play in that, and when we wear (a vintage) uniform, we honor that era and the contributions men and women made during that era.”

How can you help with hurricane relief efforts?

Teddy bear drive

The Rising 4 Club is collecting teddy bears now through Sunday for children touched by Hurricane Katrina. Drop off new or lightly-used bears at the inside entrance of the commissary.

Car wash

Rising 4 is also hosting a car wash

today from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Friendship Chapel. Proceeds will go to the Red Cross to benefit Hurricane Katrina victims. For more information, call **895-1141/1883**.

Item donations

Shaw’s airman leadership school is collecting clothes, shoes, blankets,

linens, towels, socks, underwear and toiletries for all ages and genders. Donations can be dropped off at the collection box in the BX. For more information, call **895-5194**.

To make larger donations, call Harvest Hope in Columbia at **254-4432** or Co-op Ministries at **799-3853**.



Senior Airman William Nelsen



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joel Mease

Organization:
20th Component Maintenance Squadron
Duty title:
Aircraft fuel systems journeyman
Hometown:
Valentine, Neb.
What I enjoy about the Air Force:
I like being able to travel.
Off-duty interests:
Music, auto customizing, hunting and fishing
Advice to Airmen:
Hard work pays off.
What I enjoy about my job:
I enjoy being on the hydrazine response team.

Airman 1st Class Robert Dawalt



Organization:
20th Medical Support Squadron
Duty title:
Medical materiel journeyman
Job duties:
Receive and distribute medical supplies to the clinic
Hometown:
Trafalgar, Ind.
Advice to Airmen:
Enjoy what you do, and do what you love.
Off-duty interests:
Playing sports and enjoying the outdoors
What I enjoy about the Air Force:
I enjoy the many opportunities to better myself.

Submissions to the Shaw Spotlight can be sent by supervisors to joel.mease@shaw.af.mil. Names should include the supervisor's name and duty phone number. Eligible spotlight members include: E-1 through E-5, GS-01 through GS-05 and O-1 through O-2.